



Stitches in the Sand

July 2026

MEETING DATE: July 9th at the Norman P. Murray Center and Zoom at 7:00pm.

Members Showcase

Mary Kay Fitzpatrick

My mother started teaching me how to cook, sew and knit when I was 7. I learned to sew on her Necchi that had a knee lever rather than a pedal. My first quilt was made with two sheets, polyester batting and tied with yarn, a project introduced to me by a neighbor who knew I liked to sew. I was 16. I made a couple dozen of those quilts and gave them to friends for birthdays and Christmas. I signed up for a quilting class in college and I was hooked, even though I learned more about what not to do there than what to do. There was no guidance for fabric or thread, seam allowances or technique. I moved to St. Louis when I was 26, and a friend invited me to her "friendship group". I spent over 20 years with them, and credit those seasoned ladies with the development of my skills, confidence and creativity.



Val Hutchins

Hi, I am Val Hutchins. I started quilting almost 20 years ago when my mom joined the quilt guild, but I didn't really get into quilting until I joined the guild myself in 2013. My quilting journey evolved as I took classes to build my skills. This let me try out new techniques and better make quilts that I wanted to make. Techniques like freeform piecing, appliqué, and confidence in different types of fabrics have worked to broaden my work.



Patrice Lambourne

In 7th grade I took a sewing class and enjoyed it so my parents gave me a Singer Slantneedle sewing machine for Christmas. Soon my mom arranged for me to take sewing lessons from a tailor who had immigrated from China. She did not speak English so I learned from demonstration. I spent the next forty years making garments.

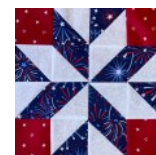
In 2003, my aunt introduced me to quilt-making. "And the rest is history." I make very few garments these days but have devoted most of my time to philanthropy quilting. When the Mountain Fire burned through parts of Camarillo in late 2024, I oversaw the Camarillo Quilters project to provide a quilt for each survivor.

I try to make one "personal" quilt each month. I offer these quilts "for free" on my Facebook page in November. As people are writing their end-of-year tax-deductible checks to encourage them to make a "generous donation" to an arts organization in their local community and then I give them the quilt of their choice. It's a win-win-win. The arts

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Connect with us on social media to join in the fun :

<https://www.facebook.com/Beach-Cities-Quilters-Guild-105189137693733>

Or Members Only Group
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/672436387018111>

BCQG's Board Meeting is held the Third Thursday of the Month via Zoom.

Don't forget to wear your name tag at the meeting!

Need to speak to a board member—Email beachcitiesqg@gmail.com

From the President

This month our country will celebrate its Semi Quincentennial! That's a mouthful of a word for a 250th birthday. Doesn't it feel like not too long ago we were celebrating the Bicentennial? Everywhere you looked things were red, white and blue. Fire hydrants, mailboxes, license plates and even Bicentennial quarters.

In true Beach Cities Quilters Guild fashion, we'll be celebrating our nation's birthday with lots of red, white and blue fabric! The indefatigable Elaine Pappas-Puckett is challenging all of us to a "No Rules" challenge. She's been planning this for almost a year, so I hope lots of you submit something. I'm almost finished with my quilt top and I'm hoping to be able to show a finished quilt by our meeting on July 9. But, even if it isn't, Elaine will accept it.

July is also our members showcase so I hope we'll have a full house to show our support to the amazing women of our guild. It takes a lot to get up and talk about your creations... I know I'd having trouble showing mine.

Have you had a chance to go to the Bowers Museum to visit their "The American Quilt: Cloth and Commerce" exhibit? It runs from May 29, 2026, until August 30, 2026. You can find more information about it at their web site: www.bowers.org.

Speaking about the Bowers Museum, they've given us a wonderful opportunity to be a part of a special event there on August 16, 2026. They've reached out to local guilds, and we are invited to have a table to present who we are to the general public. Laurel Hathaway and I will be

Laura Chambers
2025-26 President



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Showcase Continued

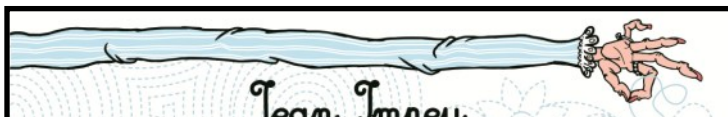
organization gets the cash, the donor gets the tax deduction and a "free" quilt, and I get the assurance that my quilt will be treated with respect. I suggest local symphony orchestras or chorales, art/music/theater departments at their local high schools and community colleges, arts councils. This philanthropy has put thousands of dollars in Michigan, Ohio, Colorado, Oregon, Arizona, and of course, right here in California.

Upcoming speakers:

August: Verushka Zerate

September: Cyndi McChesney

October: President's Quilt Presentation



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Past President's Message

Laura's President Quilt "Beaches"



We are moving along nicely on Laura's Quilt. The Design Team has met, and I think Laura will love the design (I do! 😊) Thank you for all the blocks that were turned in. They are wonderful!

When we get done with this step, the next will be to start hand quilting. This is where you come in.

I already have four lovely ladies who have offered to open their homes for the hand quilting process, Rosie Beck, Phyllis Parente, Sharon Farley and Joelle Russert. Please come to my table at the July meeting to sign-up if you haven't already.

This is a good time for fellowship and, of course, making Laura's quilt a quilt to remember her time as President.

Donna Wester
Past President

No Rules Challenge



TIME TO SHOW OFF...we will be showing our No Rules Challenge projects at the July 9 Guild meeting. When President Laura announces it's time to show them, please line up at the side of the stage. Be ready to share your name and what you created. Bring what you have even if it is not finished. If you are donating to Philanthropy, please walk it to back to their table Please walk down center aisle with pride so we can all enjoy!

June Meeting Photos



BCQG Welcoming Brunch

On June 13th, sixteen Board and Committee members had the pleasure of welcoming 17 new BCQG members at a lovely brunch hosted in the beautiful home of Julie Kemmerer's mother.

Over delicious food and lively conversation, we enjoyed getting to know one another, sharing our quilting journeys, and admiring projects during Show & Tell. It was a wonderful opportunity to build new friendships and celebrate the creativity and community that make BCQG so special.

We are excited to welcome these new members and look forward to many years of quilting, learning, and friendship together!



Philanthropy News

This month 99 Quilts were donated to the following: CHOC, Showers of Appreciation, person in need, O'Connor Mortuary, Laguna Beach Boys and Girls Club, Royal Therapeutic Treatment Center, UCI Oncology - Orange & Irvine, Priority Center, Silverado Memory Care, United Cerebral Palsy, Vets in Hospice and Village of Hope. 283 Pillowcases were donated to the following: CHOC - MV, Church of the Master, Healthcare Agencies, Project Foster, Royal Therapeutic Treatment Center, persons in need, Laguna Beach Friendship Shelter, Vets in Hospice and Vitas Hospice. There were 189 other items donated including fleece Wraps, personal pouches, placemats, table toppers and NICU blankets.

Our next sew day is **July 6**. 10:00 to 3:00. Please join us. We meet at Presbyterian Church of the Master, 26051 Marguerite Pkwy, Mission Viejo. (corner of Marguerite and Oso - park in the lot close to Oso) We set up at 9:00 and usually start to clean up around 2:30. Help is always appreciated for set up and clean up. There is a great show and tell at 11:00. We have kits for quilts, pillow cases and NICU blankets to work on (or bring your own project). Batting is provided for quilts donated to philanthropy. Irons, ironing boards, matts and cutting supplies are available.

Ways and Means

In addition to boxes and bins of fabric, we will have :

Panels, Kits and Christmas Fabric

Doors Open at 5:30. Bring a Friend!

Julie Kemmerer and Marti Ryncarz

Sunshine and Shadows



After many years of battling cancer, France Imagawa's husband, Stewart, passed away on June 19th. Cards are appreciated, services are still being planned. Liz Pickering is a good contact for updates.

Workshops

AUGUST WORKSHOP

Veruschka Zarate's "Capturing Memories" Workshop

Date: August 14, 2026

Time: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm (doors open at 9:30 am)

Location: Murray Center, Juniper Room

Explore the art of storytelling through fabric in this immersive landscape quilt workshop, where Foundation Paper Piecing (FPP) takes center stage.

This class guides students through every essential element of creating a high-detail quilt—from managing bold, large-scale sections to precision-driven micro piecing—all while working within the thoughtful constraints of a limited color palette. You'll learn how to balance color value, simplify complex forms into angular templates, and achieve clarity and depth using minimal hues.

Whether you're navigating sweeping skies or intricate architectural elements, this class equips you with the technical tools and creative strategies needed to bring expressive, layered landscapes to life through paper piecing.

This Workshop focuses on One of the Landscapes blocks within this series.

The California Coast pattern is \$20; finished quilt is 27 X 27

Registration is open. Email Janet Crothers (crothers10@hotmail.com) to register or register online.

Workshop fee is \$35 for members. Non-members are welcome to register via email as of July 14 and the fee is \$35. [Use this link to sign up online](#)



SEPTEMBER WORKSHOP

Panel Palooza with [Cindi McChesney of Cedar Ridge Quilting](#)

Date: September 11, 2026

Time: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm (doors open at 9:30 am)

Location: Murray Center, Juniper Room

In this six hour workshop, quilters will take that panel they fell in love with and turn it into something truly unique. We'll discuss how to square up your panel segments, add interesting block treatments and borders and we'll cover the basics of graphing, adding coping strips and more, all guaranteed to make your panel project a success. There will be an overview of other techniques to create a beautiful project and time to begin designing your quilt! This is a process class with no sewing involved. Each participant is required to purchase a book for the class: Fun with Panels or Playful Panel Quilts (C&T Publishing, \$25). Instructor will bring books and patterns for purchase.

Registration is open. Email Janet Crothers (crothers10@hotmail.com) to register or register online.

Workshop fee is \$35 for members. Non-members are welcome to register via email as of August 13 and the fee is \$35.

[Use this link to sign up online](#)



Workshop Recap

The June workshop Piece Curves and Play with Transparency by Karen Bolan was a great success. Students began by learning to create transparency effects using color cards and clear colored acrylic squares. Large curved pattern pattern pieces were precisely cut and sewn to create a transparency with fabric. This class created some amazing fabric combinations to complete the transparency effect.



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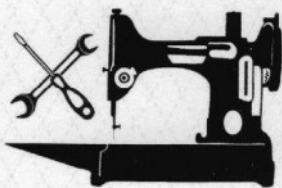
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Monthly Mini



Congratulations to Sheila Van der Laak, the lucky winner of our June Monthly Mini Raffle!

Sheila took home a beautifully framed embroidered art piece, generously donated by the talented members of the Hoopers Machine Embroidery Friendship Group. A heartfelt thank you to these creative ladies for sharing their time, talent, and generosity in support of our guild.

As we celebrate Christmas in July, we're excited to announce this month's raffle prize: a festive hand applique felt wall hanging handcrafted by Marian Mapes. This charming seasonal decoration is sure to add a touch of holiday cheer to your home and is certain to be a popular prize. Raffle tickets will be available at the meeting for:

1 ticket — \$1
6 tickets — \$5
13 tickets — \$10



Be sure to get your tickets for a chance to win this delightful handmade creation while supporting our guild. Good luck to everyone!



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Block Party

Block party is an excellent way to ease into learning quilting as we build our houses.

Block party is a great first step into BCQG participation for NEW Members

Block Party will support Philanthropy by accepting any practice house blocks you make that don't make it into your neighborhood.

Block party supports the July NO Rules challenge. If you just aren't feeling overly creative but want to participate, make a Red White and Blue house of your choice. I promise I will put them together make some beautiful quilts for philanthropy

Just think if we could send out into the world 4 or 5 quilts. Chills!

Free pattern is on the website

Orphan block challenge continues. Thanks to everyone who donates. You inspire me to use your gifts, passing them back out to their forever homes.

Your generosity is appreciated.

Since October the Orphan Project has donated 108 quilts, jackets, vests, table runners and placemats. Again, thank you. Keep up the great donations

Let me know you are participating

Sharon Farley

7143765062

Sharon@surfcitylocals.com

Friendship Circles

Friendship groups are starting. Thanks to all those that either emailed, text, called or stopped by the table. Its fun seeing the energy.

We have formed 3 new friendship groups - please let me know if you are interested in any of these as there are a few more spaces left

- 1) Beach area (Huntington/Newport beach area group)
- 2) Casta Del Sol
- 3) Mixed media related group (will still sew and quilt, just add other variety)

Again, if your current friendship group has a few available spots, please let me know and we can figure out how to accommodate you.

Thanks again

Judi Nagel

Show and Tell from June



Becky Mc Daniel



Chrisi Valley



Chris Huben



Janet Crothers



Karen Brewin



Patricia Pardo



Judi Karabelik



Mary Kay Fitzpatrick



Debbie Hulbert



Classified Ads

For Sale: Grace Company Q'nique 16X Tabletop Longarm Quilting Machine.

I bought this beauty in May 2025 thinking, "I'm going to be a quilting goddess! Straight lines, fancy feathers, the works!" Fast-forward to now: 54,517 stitches total... and only 2 actual hours of quilting.

The rest? Mostly me staring at it, whispering "you're too powerful for me," and "It isn't you, it's me!"

Comes with the Cutie 50-inch tabletop frame and all the original accessories.

Machine is in excellent condition (because it barely got used—shocker).

Basically new, barely broken in, and already tired of my drama.

Asking \$3,000

Contact Cathy Kelley at 949-468-6319

Save this poor neglected longarm from a life of being a very expensive coat rack.

It deserves better. (And honestly, so does my tiny sewing room.)



Classified Ads

My name is Margery Williams. I am a member of BCQG. I have a question about the newsletter. I am downsizing. I have 3 Anchor/DMC thread cabinets

Set of 3 Anchor/Thread and Bead Cabinets. Organize all of your threads and beads in these "Hard to Find" Anchor Thread Metal Cabinets. Super for organizing your threads, beads, scissors, accessories and needles. *These are for local pick-up only unless other shipping arrangements are made by the buyer prior to invoicing. These are priced as a set (3 cabinets).

Two cabinets have 5 Drawers - (Blue labeled drawer unit). Information for one cabinet = 14" High X 22.5" wide, 14" deep from front to back. Inside height of each drawer is 1 3/4" deep. Cabinet #1 has 5 Drawers with plastic inserts made to fit the size of embroidery floss. 20 slots per liner.

Cabinet #2 (Blue label) has 5 Drawers, 4 Drawers with plastic inserts made to fit the size of embroidery floss and one drawer with no liner. I use these for my tubes, hanks and strands of seed beads and embellishments.

Cabinet #3 (Dark Pink label) has 6 drawers - 14" High X 22.5" Wide, 14" Deep from front to back. Inside height of each drawer is 1 3/4" deep. 4 drawers have liners with 7 slots per liner (for pearl cotton). 2 drawers do not have a liner. All liners in all of the drawers are removable and interchangeable.

The cabinets are large, heavy and very sturdy. The condition is good with reasonable wear for the age of cabinets. One cabinet had chipped off paint and a few spots of rust that has been sanded and painted. These were available to retail shops that purchased the complete assortment of thread style. They were not sold separately without thread. They are no longer available.

The three stacked cabinets measure 44" High.

Cost \$220

Please contact [Margery Williams](#)

949-705-6944



Time to Volunteer



BCQG VOLUNTEER SURVEY

Our Guild has been successful because of the time, energy, and generosity of its volunteers. Please take a few moments to review the descriptions of the various Board positions, printed in the Bylaws section of your BCQG Roster. These are just a few of the many ways you can become involved and get to know other members. Please include your name to indicate your interest or submit recommendations for the following offices and committees. Please return your completed survey or send me an email with your interests by July 20th. Please call or send an email if you have any questions. Marian Mapes, Parliamentarian, mmapes1231@aol.com or my number is in the roster. Thank you!

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	_____
1 st Vice President – Programs	_____
2 nd Vice President – Membership	_____
3 rd Vice President – Facilities	_____
Secretary	_____
Treasurer	_____

STANDING COMMITTEES

Chair(s) Assist/Help When Needed

Advertising	_____	_____
Block Party	_____	_____
Door Prizes	_____	_____
Friendship Circles	_____	_____
Hospitality	_____	_____
Internet	_____	_____
Monthly Mini	_____	_____
Newsletter	_____	_____
Philanthropy	_____	_____
Show & Tell	_____	_____
SCCQG Representative	_____	_____
Quilt Show 2028	_____	_____
Spring Tea and Tour	_____	_____
Ways and Means	_____	_____
Welcoming	_____	_____
Workshops	_____	_____

Membership Form



BEACH CITIES QUILTERS GUILD MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

The information you provide will be used in the Beach Cities Guild directory. A completed membership application must be submitted no later than the December general meeting to be included in the directory for the current membership year. The directory is distributed to guild members and is not made available to other sources.

Name			☐ \$40 New Member ☐ \$40 Renewal Membership # _____ ☐ Check # _____ ☐ Cash Date _____
☐ <i>If you are renewing your membership, please review your information in the last directory. Include any needed changes below or check the box to indicate that your information is current.</i>			
Address			
City	State	Zip	
E-Mail Address			
Home Phone#		Work Phone#	
Cell Phone#		Birthday Month _____ Day _____	
Emergency Contact (if desired)		Emergency Contact Phone Number	

☐ Check Box to indicate that Beach Cities Quilters' Guild has permission to use your photo in hard copy and on-line publications. (for Example use of Show & Tell picture in the newsletter)

- BCQG is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to provide a creative atmosphere, to share knowledge of methods and techniques, and to encourage each member's growth and talent in the field of quilt making and related subjects.
- Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Norman P. Murray Center, 24932 Veteran's Way, Mission Viejo.
- Social time begins at 6:30 pm with the General Meeting & Program from 7:00 pm to approximately 9:00 pm.
- Dues are payable prior to the start of each membership year, annually from October 1 through September 30.
- Please bring this completed form and your dues (check payable to BCQG) to the Membership Table at the General meeting or mail it to:

Beach Cities Quilters Guild - Membership
P.O. Box 2328
Mission Viejo, CA 92690-2328

☐ Check Box to indicate that you have questions and/or would like to be put in contact with other guild members.